ID4- EMODNET INGESTION PORTAL – WAKE UP YOUR DATA! SET THEM FREE FOR BLUE SOCIETY

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I. INTRODUCTION

The European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) consists of more than 160 organisations that together work on assembling, harmonising and making marine data, products and metadata more available to public and private users. This Data Ingestion portal facilitates additional data managers to ingest their marine datasets for further processing, publishing as open data and contributing to applications for society.

II. EMODnet INGESTION PORTAL

EU recognizes that seas and oceans are drivers for the European economy with great potential for innovation and growth. The 'blue' economy represents about 5.5 million jobs and a gross added value of just under €500 billion a year. The oceans and seas offer new opportunities for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

The current spread of new technologies and the emergence of the internet as a public network are carving out fresh opportunities to widen public knowledge and improve human life. In modern society, technologically-mediated information is constantly growing and permeates all aspects of civil society. Knowledge is at the base of improvements in society and the economy. Knowledge-sharing (including data, information, skills, expertise) makes a group, an organisation and society as a whole more competitive.

A series of documents of the European Commission has identified strategies for Blue Growth and bottlenecks for a more competitive EU economy, such as the lack of appropriate skills, access to capital – including risk capital, fragmented marine data, environmental challenges and difficult planning processes.

EMODnet[1] is a long-term marine data initiative of the EU DG MARE. It builds and provides a gateway to marine data in Europe across seven discipline-based themes: high resolution seabed and coastal mapping, geology, physics, chemistry, biology, seabed habitats, and human activities. For each theme there is a dedicated portal maintained and expanded in functionalities and data coverages. The portals provide users discovery, access and viewing services for measured data sets and generic data products, such as basin-scale maps.

The EMODnet development is a dynamic process that relies on the contributions of data providers and users. The EMODnet thematic portals are continuously improved to make the services and products more fit for purpose and with low threshold.

The EMODnet portals are developed and operated by a large network of data centres and data experts from major marine research institutes, geological surveys, hydrographic services, and other organisations. These data centres also work together in major European infrastructures for marine data management, such as SeaDataNet, EurOBIS, and EGDI. These infrastructures provide the backbones for the EMODnet portals and this way using the networks and protocols already large volumes of marine data are made discoverable and accessible, where possible in harmonised ways.

However there is still a lot of marine data often collected at great expense that does not reach those infrastructures and EMODnet portals. This can be data sets acquired by industry, but also at governmental departments, and research organisations. These data sets and their data holders need to be 'waked up' and guided to make their data sets also available so that the overall EMODnet data offer and quality of EMODnet products can be improved to the benefit of users, which come from science, government and industry. The EMODnet Data Ingestion portal aims at streamlining the data ingestion process by which 'awoken' data holders from public and private sectors can easily release their data for long term safekeeping, further validation and conversion to standard formats, and subsequent distribution through EMODnet portals.

The EMODnet Data Ingestion portal[2] aims at

- To identify and reach out to organisations from public, research and private sectors who are managing marine datasets for bathymetry, geology, physics, chemistry, biology and/or human activities and who are not yet connected and contributing to the existing marine data management infrastructures
- To motivate and support those potential data providers to release their datasets for safekeeping and subsequent freely distribution through EMODnet
- To facilitate the inclusion of those marine datasets by means of a data ingestion service and subsequent communication with expert data repositories to work up the metadata documentation for direct publishing and, in a second stage, for making the submitted datasets fit for inclusion in the EMODnet data services and products.
- Streamlining the data ingestion process by which 'awoken' data holders from public and private sectors can easily release their data for long term safekeeping, further validation and conversion to standard formats, and subsequent distribution through EMODnet portals.

EMODnet Data Ingestion also holds a Data Wanted Service that facilitates anyone seeking certain types of datasets to specify its needs and to post these. This might challenge potential owners of matching datasets to come forward and as follow-up to ingest their datasets. Also it gives direction to the operators of the Ingestion portal in their searches for additional datasets as they will try to match the posted data requests.

III. CONCLUSIONS

The EMODnet Data Ingestion portal aims at streamlining the data ingestion process so that data holders from public and private sectors that are not yet connected to the existing marine data management infrastructures can easily release their data for safekeeping and subsequent distribution through EMODnet. This will enrich the total offer for all types of users and conform to the EMODnet motto 'collect data once and use it many times'.

REFERENCES

[1] EMODnet Homepage, http://www.emodnet.eu.
[2] EMODnet Data Ingestion Homepage, https://www.emodnet-ingestion.eu

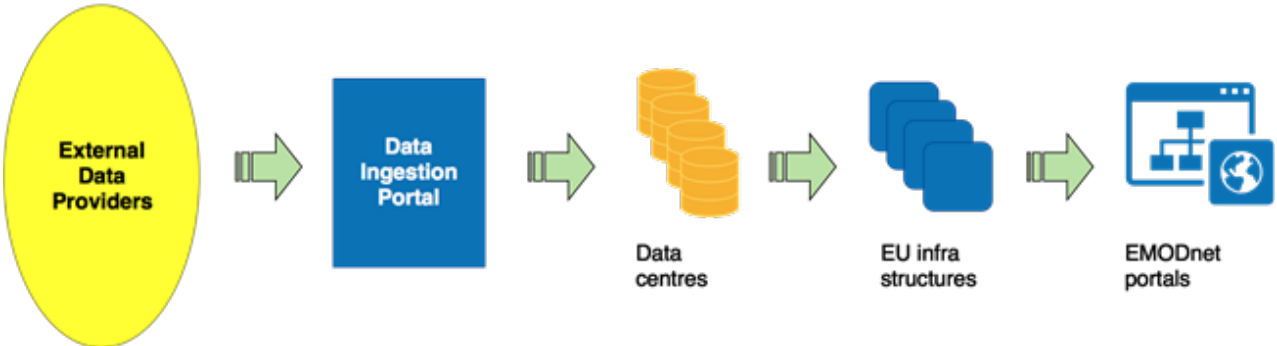

Fig 1. The data ingestion process